

REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA  
AND RECORD OF ACTION

77

June 3, 2003

FROM: **MICHAEL A. RAMOS**  
District Attorney

SUBJECT: **APPROVE GRANT APPLICATION AND MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) REGARDING THE ORGANIZED AUTOMOBILE FRAUD ACTIVITY INTERDICTION PROGRAM (URBAN GRANT) AND ADOPT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY TO SIGN AND SUBMIT THE APPLICATION AND THE MOU.**

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Approve grant application to the California Department of Insurance for continued funding of the Organized Automobile Fraud Activity Interdiction Program in the amount of \$215,000/yr for a three-year grant period of FY 2003-04, FY 2004-05 and FY 2005-06 commencing July 1, 2003.
2. Approve Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the County of Riverside, the California Department of Insurance, Fraud Division, and the California Highway Patrol for a coordinated effort aimed at the investigation and prosecution of organized automobile fraud activity.
3. Adopt resolution authorizing the District Attorney to sign and submit the application and the MOU on behalf of the Board of Supervisors.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Under the direction of the Insurance Commissioner, the California Department of Insurance (CDI) administers the Organized Automobile Fraud Activity Interdiction Program and the distribution of grant funds to district attorneys for the prosecution and elimination of organized automobile fraud activity (see California Insurance Code Section 1874.8).

The Urban Grant Program is a shared grant between San Bernardino County and Riverside County. Cases referred for filing by the Department of Insurance will be prosecuted in the appropriate county.

San Bernardino County has received grant funding for this program for the last three years in the amount of \$253,000 per year. The grant funded (1) Deputy District Attorney, (1) Paralegal and .5 Transcriber Typist. This grant application will request funding in the amount of \$215,000 per year. Staffing in the program will be reduced by .5 Paralegal for FY 2003-04, FY 2004-05 and FY 2005-06.

The MOU with the County of Riverside, the California Department of Insurance, Fraud Division, and the California Highway Patrol creates the framework for effective communication, coordination and resource management in the investigation and prosecution of organized automobile fraud activity.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: This item has been reviewed by the County Administrative Office (Mario Lara, Administrative Analyst) on May 20, 2003 and County Counsel (Scott M. Runyan, Deputy County Counsel) on May 20, 2003.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: The grant application seeks funding in the amount of \$215,000 per year to support the program during FY 2003-04, FY 2004-05 and FY 2005-06. Appropriation and revenue related to the program are included in the proposed FY 2003-04 budget.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S): ALL

PRESENTER: James B. Hackleman, Assistant District Attorney (909) 387-6601

Record of Action of the Board of Supervisors

77